

Finding Aids

Guide to the

B. B. Paddock Papers 1862-1946 (Bulk 1862-1921)

3.5 linear ft.

Collection Number: GA194-195,
Oversize Boxes 201-202, 237-239

Prepared by Richard Glancy
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CITATION: B.B. Paddock Papers, GA194-195, Box number, Folder number, Special Collections Division, The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries.

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Biographical Sketch

Buckley B. Paddock, son of Boardman and Margaret (Buckley), Paddock, was born January 22, 1844, in Cleveland, Ohio. He spent his boyhood among trappers and loggers in the Northwest. He joined the Confederate Army at age sixteen as a private, and became reputedly the youngest commanding officer in that army when promoted to captain in 1862 at age eighteen. He fought in Wirt Adams Cavalry at Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, and elsewhere with assignments in secret service and signal corps. In 1864, in command of thirteen, he captured an ironclad gunboat and crew of 268. He had five horses shot from under him and after one battle had twenty-seven holes in his shirt yet escaped serious injury. He was the inspiration for George Washington Cable's novel *The Cavalier*.

After the war Paddock became a lawyer in Fayette, Mississippi, and married Emmie M. Harper, the daughter of a planter, on December 10, 1867. They had four children: Mary, who died young; Wirt; William B.; and

Virgile. He arrived in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1872 and spent the rest of his life promoting that city in a variety of ways. Paddock published the **Fort Worth Democrat** for ten years, where his editorials reflected his vision for Fort Worth and especially promoted it as a railroad center. His "Tarantula Map" envisioned most of the rail lines that were eventually to go through Fort Worth years before they were built. When the **Democrat** merged with the **Gazette**, Paddock served as managing editor. He later went into banking and the investment securities business. He was founder and president of the Fort Worth and Rio Grande Railway from Fort Worth to Brownwood, which later became part of the Frisco System. An effort to build the Fort Worth and Northwestern to the coal-fields in Young County was pursued sporadically from the 1890s to 1914 but did not succeed. He was involved in organizing the first Board of Trade, which became the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and, after many years of service, was made honorary president for life. Paddock was president of the Texas Spring Palace Association from 1889-1890.

B.B. Paddock also served politically. He was a state representative 1881-1883 and 1913-1915 and served as mayor of Fort Worth from 1892-1900.

Paddock also wrote or edited four books on Texas history. He died January 9, 1922, and was buried in Fort Worth.

Sources:

- **Fort Worth: A Frontier Triumph** by Julia Kathryn Garrett (Encino Press, 1972);
- **A History of Texas and Texans**, Volume V, by Frank W. Johnson (The American Historical Society, 1914);
- **The Handbook of Texas**, Vol II, edited by Walter Prescott Webb and H. Bailey Carroll (The Texas State Historical Association, 1952).

Scope and Content Note

The B.B. Paddock Papers contain correspondence, legal documents, clippings, genealogical information, photographs, and artifacts relating to Buckley B. Paddock and his family and business interests between the years 1862 to 1946. The bulk of the material being personal correspondence between 1862 and 1921, much of that being correspondence between Paddock and his wife, Emmie. They wrote frequently during his Civil War service and the many business trips that Paddock made both in the United States and abroad seeking backing for the railroads.

The collection is divided into seven series: correspondence, legal documents, clippings, genealogical information, printed items, photographs, and artifacts. The correspondence is subdivided into family and business correspondence and is arranged chronologically. The bulk of the correspondence is personal correspondence beginning in 1864 and ending in 1946. Six letters written to then fiancée Emmie Harper while Paddock was an officer in the Confederate Army reflect his views on the state of the war, morale, and what the future might hold. Letters in the early 1870s give Paddock's impressions of Texas and especially Fort Worth as he moves his family to that city. Paddock's business interests caused him to travel both in the United States, especially to New York, and also to London and Paris and his correspondence to wife, Emmie, reflects his experiences through the latter nineteenth century. The correspondence is less plentiful in the twentieth century. Included are letters from the children and others. Letters to other members of the Paddock family make up the group from 1922 to 1946 and are few in number. Mrs. Emmie Paddock died in 1926, son William died in 1929. Brief eulogies are included about them. Business correspondence is limited to one folder though references to business matters are included in the other correspondence.

Legal documents are subdivided into business and family categories. Included are some contracts for the Fort Worth and Rio Grande Railway, 1886-1889, and the Fort Worth and Northwestern Railway, 1903, as well as a contract and subscriptions for the Fort Worth, Springtown, and Mineral Wells Interurban, 1908-1909. The family legal documents include an abstract of title and some warranty deeds for lots in Stephenville, Texas. A ledger lists accounts received in Mississippi for legal work and expenses in

Mississippi and New Orleans. Following the move to Fort Worth, the ledger was used for expenses and credits in connection with the Paddock printing office and for subscriptions to the **Fort Worth Democrat**.

The clippings, which have been copied on acid-free paper, include several articles and obituaries about B.B. Paddock and a copy of Paddock's "tarantula map" drawn in July 1873, and reproduced in a local newspaper in 1902. The map depicts the many railroads that he expected to come to Fort Worth.

Genealogical material on the Paddock family and miscellaneous printed items are included. Artifacts and accessories donated in 1993 include clothing worn by members of the Paddock family, sheet music for piano, and buttons, badges, and ribbons worn and collected by the family from ca.1885-1913 at conventions, meetings, and military reunions.

There are sixteen photographs, some unidentified, many are undated. These are divided into Texas Spring Palace photographs, family photographs, and group photographs. Included is an 1862 photograph of Paddock in uniform, five photographs relating to the Texas Spring Palace, Paddock's home "Edge Hill," and several of Paddock.

The collection contains two manuscript boxes and five oversize boxes, a total of 3.5 linear feet. Oversize items were removed from the collection and are housed in oversize boxes. See container list for oversize items. Many of these items are fragile. Handle with care.

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Provenance

The B.B. Paddock Papers were given to The University of Texas at Arlington in December, 1981, by Mrs. Chalmers W. (Virgile Pitner) Hutchison and Mrs. Martha Pitner Cort, granddaughters of B.B. Paddock. The papers were received by Dr. Charles C. Colley, Director of Special Collections. The Paddock account book was donated in July 1990 by Al Peters of Fort Worth. Mrs. Chalmers W. Hutchison donated the clothing worn by members of the Paddock family, the pillow bolster, the badges, and the sheet music in 1993. Mr. Wallace W. Hutchison, great-grandson of B.B. Paddock, donated the tin box, belt buckle, and epaulets from Paddock's Civil War uniform also in 1993.

The materials after 1981 were received by Dr. Gerald D. Saxon, Associate Director for Special Collections, and Marcelle Hull, Archivist.

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Container List

Box GA194

Folder Title, Dates, and Description

1. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1864-1865
2. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1866-1869
3. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1870-1872
4. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1873
5. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1874-1878
6. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1881
7. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1883
8. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1886
9. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1886

10. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1887
11. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1888
12. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1888
13. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1889
14. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1890-1893
15. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1894
16. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1895
17. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1897
18. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1898
19. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1899
20. Account books, 1869-1880 (photocopy) Lists accounts received in Mississippi for legal work, and expenses in Mississippi and in New Orleans. Later the ledger was used for expenses and credits in connection with the Paddock printing office and for subscriptions to the Paddock newspaper.

Box GA195

1. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1900-1903
2. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1906
3. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1908-1912
4. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1914-1915
5. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1916
6. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1917-1921
7. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1922-1926
8. Paddock Family Correspondence, 1928-1946
9. Paddock Family Correspondence, undated
10. Paddock Family Correspondence, undated
11. Paddock Business Correspondence, 1886-1899
12. Fort Worth and Rio Grande Railway Legal Documents, 1886-1889
13. Fort Worth and Northwestern Railway Legal Documents, 1903
14. Fort Worth, Springtown, and Mineral Wells Interurban Legal Documents, 1908
15. Fort Worth, Springtown, and Mineral Wells Interurban Legal Documents, 1908-1909
16. Paddock Family Legal Documents, 1889
17. Paddock Family Legal Documents, 1889
18. Paddock Family Legal Documents, 1890
19. Paddock Family Clippings
20. Paddock Family Genealogical Information
21. Printed Items
22. Texas Spring Palace Photographs, 1889
23. Paddock Family Photographs
24. B.B. Paddock Group Photographs

Oversize Box 201

1. Account Book (Fragile). Use photocopy in GA194.

Oversize Box 202

1. MLS, October 5, 1864, 3p. B.B. Paddock, Jackson, [Miss.?], to Emmie Harper, Secluseval, [Missouri?].
2. Photograph, B.B. Paddock with sister, Mary Brown, brother, Jim Paddock, and unidentified brother, n.d. [8 x 10" mounted on board]
3. Photograph, B.B. Paddock with seven other men in military uniform, 1909. [8 x 10" mounted on board]
4. Photograph, Confederate Reunion, B.B. Paddock and others, n.d. [12 x 9.5"]
5. Photograph, B.B. Paddock with unidentified group, n.d. [7.5 x 9.5" mounted on board]

6. Tarantula map, clipping, September 28, 1902. [This is a reproduction of the July 26, 1873 tarantula map drawn by B.B. Paddock three years before the Texas and Pacific was built to Fort Worth. Partial clipping with story.]
7. Sheet music, ***The Flag of Texas!*** "A National Song composed in honour [sic] of the Glorious Victory on the 21st of April, 1836, and respectfully dedicated to General Samuel Houston, by A. F. Winnemore. Arranged for the Piano Forte, by P. M. Wolsieffer. Published by permission of the Publisher, Mr. George Willig." [2 pages, photocopy]
8. Two volumes of bound sheet music for piano. One volume is embossed with "Emmie Harper," the other with "Miss S. L. Byers."

Oversize Box 237

Textiles:

1. Woman's dress, black polka-dot.
2. Bodice for a ladies dress, white checkered.
3. Baby's dress, white cotton chambray.
4. Young girl's dress, white cotton with red pattern woven in the material.
5. Knox College uniform for young man; coat, pants, and cap. [The Paddock sons attended Knox College in Illinois.]
6. B.B. Paddock's Civil War uniforms--three coats and two pair of pants. Includes one dress uniform and one battle [?] coat.
7. Pillow cover, white linen with pink embroidery binding, bolster size.

Oversize Boxes 238A, 238B, & 238C

1. Souvenir and identification badges, buttons, and ribbons from meetings attended by the Paddocks including business, fraternal, political, and military reunion events, approx. 150 badges, 1885-1913. Many are not dated and are in fragile condition. Not individually listed.

Oversize Box 239

1. Black beaver, top hat or formal hat. Label: MacQueen & Co., London, trademark; T. Salisbury & Son, Hatters, Weston-Super-Mare. Signed inside hatband: "A. Venting, Christ's College, Oxford, England." [6 inches tall]
2. Black tin box containing: Belt buckle, stamped #275 [image on buckle is the American eagle holding an olive branch and arrows]; Two gold-fringed epaulets from B.B. Paddock's Civil War uniform.